

Executive Department State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor **Proclamation**

State Capitol Boise

WHEREAS, May 14, 2013 marks the first annual Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS) Awareness Day, during which Idaho will raise state and national awareness about Childhood Apraxia of Speech, a particularly difficult, persistent and severe neurological speech disorder in youngsters; and

WHEREAS, CAS causes affected children to have extreme difficulty planning and producing the precise, highly refined and specific series of movements of the tongue, lips, jaw and palate that are necessary in producing clear, intelligible speech; it is among the most severe of speech and communication problems in young children; and

WHEREAS, while the act of learning to speak comes effortlessly to most children, those with apraxia endure an incredible and lengthy struggle; and although not life threatening, the disorder is life altering as families are left to cope with the emotional, physical and financial challenges of having a child diagnosed with CAS; and

WHEREAS, every child should be afforded their best opportunity to develop speech and every child deserves a voice; with early intervention and appropriate therapy, most children with CAS will learn to communicate with their very own voices; and

WHEREAS, these children, as well as their families, deserve our highest respect for their effort, determination and resilience in the face of such obstacles;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim May 14, 2013 to be

CHILDHOOD APRAXIA AWARENESS DAY

in Idaho.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 14th day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand and thirteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred thirty-seventh and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred twenty-third.

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER GOVERNOR

BEN YSURSA SECRETARY OF STATE